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TITLE: Log note system for digitally recorded audio

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ABSTRACT:

A system which is primarily of use for lawyers, judges and electronic court reporters operates to correlate personal log notes with digitally recorded audio proceedings, such as courtroom proceedings. The notes may be made in conjunction with the computer actually recording the courtroom proceedings; or they may be made on personal computers separate from the computer recording the court proceedings. Identification of the proceedings is made on both the digitally recorded proceedings, as well as on the log notes; so that they are correlated. Each time a note is entered, the time at which the note is entered is placed as a time stamp in conjunction with the note. When the log notes are synchronized with the recorded court proceedings (either at the time the proceedings begin, or at any subsequent time), reference subsequently to that note time stamp allows direct immediate access to the same running time on the court proceedings, for subsequent review of either the recorded audio or a transcription made of that audio carrying the same time references.

RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application is related to co-pending application Ser. No. 09/346,430, filed on Jul. 1, 1999 for a digital audio transcription system.

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Abstract Paragraph (1):

A system which is primarily of use for lawyers, judges and electronic court reporters operates to correlate personal log notes with digitally recorded audio proceedings, such as courtroom proceedings. The notes may be made in conjunction with the computer actually recording the courtroom proceedings; or they may be made on personal computers separate from the computer recording the court proceedings. Identification of the proceedings is made on both the digitally recorded proceedings, as well as on the log notes; so that they are correlated. Each time a note is entered, the time at which the note is entered is placed as a time stamp in conjunction with the note. When the log notes are synchronized with the recorded court proceedings (either at the time the proceedings begin, or at any subsequent time), reference subsequently to that note time stamp allows direct immediate access to the same running time on the court proceedings, for subsequent review of either the recorded audio or a transcription made of that audio carrying the same time references.

CLAIMS:

1. A system for creating and entering log notes correlated in real time to a digital audio transcription record, including in combination: at least one selected source of digitally recorded audio signals; a computer including a memory for storing the digitally recorded audio signals and for allowing the stored digitally recorded audio signals to be played back, the digitally recorded audio signals being associated with a date and a running time corresponding to the time at which the audio signals were recorded; the computer including a memory for storing digital signals corresponding to specific individual log notes correlated with the digital audio signals, the computer associating a time stamp corresponding to the actual recording of each of the log notes; a display coupled to the computer, with the computer allowing the display to indicate file entries corresponding to the digitally recorded audio signals and corresponding to the log notes associated with unique file entries corresponding to the digitally recorded audio signals; a play-back selection means associated with the computer allowing a user to play a desired file entry of digitally recorded audio signals associated with the corresponding log notes; the computer being responsive to the play-back selection means for effecting the playing of the digitally recorded audio signals corresponding to the selected file entry; and means responsive to selection by a user of a specific associated log note for automatically causing playing of that portion of the digitally recorded audio signal corresponding to the selected log note.
2. The system according to claim 1 further including means for automatically correlating the time stamps of the log notes with the corresponding running time of the digitally recorded audio.
3. The system according to claim 2 wherein the means for correlating the time stamp of the log notes with the corresponding file entry for the digital audio signals operates in response to specific identifying indicia for the log notes corresponding to the file entry with which the log notes are associated.
4. The system according to claim 3 further including means for synchronizing a date and the time stamps of all log notes associated with a specific file entry in response

to selection of a specific log note correlated to a current play time of a portion of a digitally recorded audio recording causing all of the log notes associated with the file entry for that recording to be changed and synchronized with the selected recording.

5. The system according to claim 4 wherein selection of a specific log note time stamp by a user causes the playing of the corresponding digitally recorded audio signals to automatically jump to the running time reflected in the selected time stamp to permit playing of the particular audio signals associated with the log note time stamp.

9. The system according to claim 1 further including means for synchronizing a date and the time stamps of all log notes associated with a specific file entry in response to selection of a specific log note correlated to a current play time of a portion of a digitally recorded audio recording causing all of the log notes associated with the file entry for that recording to be changed and synchronized with the selected recording.

10. The system according to claim 1 wherein selection of a specific log note time stamp by a user causes the playing of the corresponding digitally recorded audio signals to automatically jump to the running time reflected in the selected time stamp to permit playing of the particular audio signals associated with the log note time stamp.

13. The system according to claim 3 wherein selection of a specific log note time stamp by a user causes the playing of the corresponding digitally recorded audio signals to automatically jump to the running time reflected in the selected time stamp to permit playing of the particular audio signals associated with the log note time stamp.